THE FINEST IN JAZZ SINCE 1939
BLUE NOTE
GREGORY
PORTER
TAKE
ME
TO
THE
ALLEY

01 HOLDING ON 5:01
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Gregory Porter voice
Alicia Olatuja voice
Chip Crawford piano
Aaron James bass
Emanuel Harrold drums
Keyon Harrold trumpet
Yosuke Sato alto saxophone
Tivon Pennicott tenor saxophone
Ondrej Pivec organ
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BLUE NOTE
DECCA

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AMARAYANNA MUSIC/SESAC

Yosuke Sato plays Yanagisawa Saxophones
and Aizen Mouthpieces

Emanuel Harrold plays Dream Cymbals,
Vic Firth Sticks and Sakae Drums

HOLDING ON

Weight of love on my shoulders
I thought that it would be easier than this
I thought my heart had grown colder
But the warmth of your kiss, I can't dismiss
Though my past has left me bruised
I ain't hiding from the truth
When the truth won't let me lie right next to you
But it's holding on
And it's holding strong
Even though I tried to make it
Played the part, but I can't fake it
It keeps holding on
And it's holding strong
Even though I tried to break it
Heaven knows that I can't shake it
Holding on...
I've seen times that were harder
I remember the taste of bitterness
Won't you help me, my father?
Help me fall in the love that I have missed
Though my past has left me bruised
I ain't hiding from the truth
When the truth won't let me lie right next to you
But it's holding on
And it's holding strong
Even though I tried to make it
Played the part, but I can't fake it
It keeps holding on
And it's holding strong
Even though I tried to break it
Heaven knows that I can't shake it
Holding on...
But it's holding on
And it's holding strong
Even though I tried to make it
Played the part, but I can't fake it
It keeps holding on
And it's holding strong
Even though I tried to break it
Heaven knows that I can't shake it
Holding on

DON'T LOSE YOUR STEAM

Sitting on the top of the roof
The bridge is all mine
Steam engines roll by
The bridges fall down
And so do my dreams
Boy you hear me calling your name
The bridge is your time
Your engine rolls hot
If the bridges fall down
Don't lose your head of steam
Young man
I'm counting on you
And whoa young man
I'm counting on you
Boy I didn't make it too far
But baby you are
The family star
I'll tighten your seams
Don't lose your head of dreams
Boy you hear me calling your name
The bridge is your time
Your engine rolls hot
If the bridges fall down
Don't lose your head of steam
Young man
I'm counting on you
And whoa young man
I'm counting on you
To get me to the other side
Hey. hey, hey, hey
This foot pound pressure is new
Whatever you do
Is up to you
But do me this do
Don't lose your head of dreams
Young man
I'm counting on you
And whoa young man
I'm counting on you
Young man
I'm counting on you
And whoa young man
I'm counting on you
And whoa young man
You are now the man
Whoa young man
I'm counting on you
You are now the man
Can you get me to the other side
Don't lose your head of steam

TAKE ME TO THE ALLEY

Well, they guild their houses
In preparation for the king
And they line the sidewalks
With every sort of shiny thing
They will be surprised
When they hear him say
Take me to the alley
Take me to the afflicted ones
Take me to the lonely ones that
somehow lost their way
Let them hear me say
I am your friend
Come to my table
Rest here in my garden
You will have a pardon
Take me to the alley
Take me to the afflicted ones
Take me to the lonely ones that
somehow lost their way
Let them hear me say
I am your friend
Come to my table
Rest here in my garden
You will have a pardon
They will be surprised
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Take me to the afflicted ones
Take me to the lonely ones that
somehow lost their way
Let them hear me say
I am your friend
Come to my table
Rest here in my garden
You will have a pardon
You will have a pardon
Take me to the alley
Take me to the afflicted ones
Take me

DAY DREAM

He's satisfied to dream his whole life away
Candy coated castles life of play
Broomsticks are his magic cars
Climb aboard and you'll ride the stars
Can you remember? It seems like yesterday
Getting older
Growing taller
Getting smarter
He'll find his way
Rocket ships that never leave his hand
But he's in space 'cause, he's a rocket ship man
Got to fight in some galaxy wars
Climb aboard and you'll ride the stars
Got to get home to kiss his mama goodnight
Getting older
Growing taller

Getting smarter
He'll find his way
If he folds his legs a certain way, he can fly
Told his cousins to watch him as he tries
Broomsticks are his magic cars
Climb aboard and you'll ride the stars
Can't go to far 'cause silly grown up life is straight ahead
Getting older
Growing taller
Getting smarter
He'll find his way

CONSEQUENCE OF LOVE

I will go through the consequence of love
Whatever come, what may you see,
the game for me is you
I will fight for the right to be your love
No matter what they say, you see,
the game for me is you
I begin to hate
Time and distance
'Cause it makes me wait
It's all I seem to do
I will go through the consequence of love
Whatever come, what may you see,
the game for me is you
I will fight for the right to be your love
No matter what they say, you see,
the game for me is you
I begin to hate
Time and distance
'Cause it makes me wait
It's all I seem to do
I'll anticipate
With all my patience
'Cause it makes me wait
Coming home to you
I will go through the consequence of love
Whatever come, what may you see,
the game for me is you
I will fight for the right to be your love
No matter what they say, you see,
the game for me is you
The game for me is love

IN FASHION

You wear a black leather belt that holds the waist I used to hold
Your colors fade, but not the color of your jeans
You wear a hat with pretty swirls,
the envy of the other girls
You change your shades before our day turns into eve
Think I better let it go
'Cause I'm thinking I'm last year's runway passion
No longer in fashion
But I find myself obsessed
With how you dress
And whom you see when you're without me
We're never caught in picture frames
The paparazzi know our names
They know like fashion
Our love is not for real
The weather's fine but in your mind
You need that flare, and so you wear
Big blue fur, and feathered hair to fit your scheme
Think I better let it go
'Cause I'm thinking I'm last year's runway passion
No longer in fashion
And I find myself obsessed
With how you dress
And whom you'll see when you're without me
Yes I find myself obsessed
With how you dress
And whom you'll see when you're without me
Think I better let it go
'Cause I'm thinking I'm last year's runway passion
No longer in fashion
And I find myself obsessed
With how you dress
And whom you'll see when you're without me
Oh I find myself obsessed
With how you dress
And whom you'll see when you're without me
Yes, I find myself obsessed
With how you dress
And whom you'll see when you're without me

MORE THAN A WOMAN

More than a woman
Now I see, now I know, who she is
More than a woman
Modern day, deity, yes she is
More than a woman
She never walked on water
She never turned that water to wine
But being 'round her made my blind eyes see
She brought love, to my life, gave love light
More than a woman
Simple words, I love you, she made true
More than a woman
She never walked on water
She never turned that water to wine
But being 'round her made my blind eyes see
She never walked on water
She never turned that water to wine
But being 'round her made my blind eyes see
She's more than a woman to me
She made my blind eyes see
More than a woman to me

IN HEAVEN

In heaven
That's where you'll see me, my love
Not on the earth, with its trouble and cares
In heaven,
That's where you'll see me, my love
Not on the earth, with its toils and snares
So don't go running to the mountains, my love
Because you know that I won't be there
And don't go running to the hillsides, my love
Just lift your head up and say a prayer
In heaven,
That's where you'll see me, my love
Not on the earth, with its trouble and cares
In heaven,
That's where you'll see me, my love
Not on the earth, with its toils and snares
So don't go running to the mountains, my love
Because you know that I won't be there
And don't go running to the hillsides, my love
Just lift your head up and say a prayer
In heaven

INSANITY

How did we ever lose our minds
And fall apart, knowing we're the only ones
To heal each other's hearts
Bring your love on back to me
Stop this insanity
Before we go too far
How did we ever lose our way
And try to say, love is a losing game
Should have never tried to play
Bring your love on back to me
Stop this insanity
Before we go too far
We were lovers
And the best of friends
And I hope, I hope that we can be that
Oh, until the end

Sometimes a lover
Can be angry 'till the end
But it's always the friend inside
That will make amends
How did we ever lose our way
And try to say, love is a losing game
We will never be the same
Bring your love on back to me
Stop this insanity
Before we go too far
We were lovers
And the best of friends
And I know that we can be that
Be that 'till the end
Sometimes a lover,
Can be angry 'till the end
Oh but its always the friend inside
That will make amends
How did we ever lose our way
And start to say, love is a losing game
We will never feel the same
Bring your love on back to me
Stop this insanity
Before we go too far

DON'T BE A FOOL

Don't be a fool
Don't give your nights to someone else
While giving days to those who really love you
Don't be a fool like me
And give your life to someone else
While faking love to those who really love you
Why couldn't I have realized
The gravity of telling lies
Whose weight now shows up upon your faceless smile
I know your heart, now and before
I won't do it anymore
Trust in me and fall in love again
Listen to these charms
Baby, I'm not fooling
And fall into these open arms of love
Listen to these charms 'cause
Baby, I'm not fooling
And fall into these open arms of love
Listen to these charms
Baby, I'm not fooling around
And fall into these open arms of love
Why couldn't I have realized
The gravity of tears in her eyes
Whose weight now shows up on your faceless smile
I broke your heart, now and before
But I won't do it anymore
Trust in me and fall in love again
Listen to these charms
Baby, I'm not fooling
And fall into these open arms of love
Listen to these charms
Baby, I'm not fooling
And fall into these open arms of love
Listen to these charms 'cause
Baby, I'm not fooling around
And fall into these open arms of love

FAN THE FLAME

Fan the flames of love
A classy action suit to dance in
Break a window and let the sun in
Break the silence; it's not a sin
Stand up on the seat with your dirty feet
Put your fist in the air
Be sweet
Tear down the walls of hate
Fill up the empty bowls of the hungry
Break the sacks and let the rice run free
Crack the backs of the tax for me
Stand up on the seat with your dirty feet
Raise your fist in the air and be sweet
Be sweet now
Fan the flames of love
A classy action suit to dance in
Break a window and let the sun in
Break the silence; it's not a sin
Stand up on the seat with your filthy feet
Raise your fist in the air and be sweet
Tear down the walls of hate
Fill up the empty bowls of the hungry
Break the sacks and let the rice run free
Crack the backs of the tax for me
Stand up on the seat with your dirty feet
Raise your fist in the air and be sweet
Be sweet

FRENCH AFRICAN QUEEN

I was walking 'round in Paris
Near the Fuque Zanzibar
Said the woman at the front door:
"Do you know the place you are?
This place is for the fancy
I don't think you fit the scene
You are just American black boy
I'm a French African Queen"
And she was tall and statuesque
She looked straight over my puzzled head
She said, "Don't make me get real ugly
You heard just what I said"
"I've got music for the people,
I must fulfill my precious dream
To bring blues from America to the
French African Queen"
I was walking 'round in Paris
Near the Fuque Zanzibar
Said the woman at the front door:
"Do you know the place you are?"
"This place is for the fancy
I don't think you fit the scene
You are just American black boy
I'm a French African Queen"
And she was tall and statuesque
She looked straight over my puzzled head
She said, "Don't make me get real ugly
You heard just what I said"
"I've got music for the people,
I must fulfill my precious dream
I bring blues from America to the
French African Queen"
Hear my words we're not so different
Land and language in the way
We feel the same human feelings
With different words we say
We are fruit from the same tree,
I think you know just what I mean
I am your American black boy
You're my French African Queen

I want to thank my inspiration...
my loved ones, my family, my band,
the people that stand before me at
the stage and in life. Thank you for
reflecting light on me and showing
me my reflection. We are empty
without love. Thank you.

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